REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing and reconsideration of the subject application are respectfully requested in light of the amendments above and the comments which follow.

As correctly noted in the Office Action Summary, claims 1-4 and 6 were pending. By the present response, claim 1 has been amended and claims 11-19 have been added. Thus, upon entry of the present response, claims 1-4, 6, and 11-19 remain pending and await further consideration on the merits.

Support for the foregoing amendments can be found, for example, in at least the following locations in the original disclosure: the original claims and the specification, page 8, lines 18-21.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-4 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, on the grounds set forth in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Official Action.

By the present response, applicant has amended claim 1 in a manner which addresses the above-noted rejection. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIMS

New claims 11-19 further define aspects of the presently claimed cutting tool. It is respectfully submitted that these new claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as claims 1-4 and 6.

CONCLUSION

From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner feel that any issues remain, it is requested that the undersigned be contacted so that any such issues may be adequately addressed and prosecution of the instant application expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: August 16, 2004

P.O. Box 1404 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404 (703) 836-6620 3y: <u>/</u>

Registration/No. 50,891